

IN THE DISCLOSURE

Amend page 4, line 10 by adding

C' The signal conditioning and control circuitry has a memory 25 associated therewith and by means of which initial signals instructing the computer may be sent thereto when the coupler is initially aligned and positioned within said diskette drive.

IN THE CLAIMS

Cancel without prejudice or dedication to the public claims 42 through 46.

Kindly amend claims 34, 35, 37-41 and 47, as follows:

C² 34. (Amended) In combination a computer having a diskette drive, an end user computer peripheral device having an input/output port normally connectible to a conventional computer input/output port[of any of a number of computers], and a coupler which couples the computer with the end user computer peripheral device without using a conventional computer input/output port: said coupler being sized and shaped for insertion [in] within the diskette drive of the computer[, said coupler comprising means for aligning and positioning said coupler within the diskette drive, means for coupling with a read/write head of the diskette drive in a manner to transfer data between said coupler and the read/write head when said coupler is aligned and positioned in the diskette drive, said coupler further including means connecting said coupler to said computer peripheral device in a manner to accommodate transfer of data between said coupler and said end user computer peripheral device, whereby said coupler when aligned and positioned in the diskette drive and connected to said end user computer peripheral device accommodates the transfer of data between the read/write head and said end user computer peripheral device via said coupler] and accurately aligns and positions said coupler with a read/write head of the diskette drive and forms a data transfer relationship between said read/write head and a means for coupling of said coupler, said coupler further including signal transfer means connecting said coupler and said input/output port of said end user computer peripheral device, said means for coupling being connected to and forming a data transfer arrangement with said signal transfer means whereby data is transferred from said computer to said end user computer

WH-7552AA

Page 3

C² peripheral device via said read/write head of said computer, said coupler, and said input/output port of said end user computer peripheral device.

²
~~35.~~ (Amended) In combination as claimed in claim ~~34~~ wherein said means for coupling includes a coil read/write element positioned [for coupling with the] on said coupler to align with said read/write head of the diskette drive [by means of] and form an electromagnetic induction connection therewith when said coupler is inserted in said diskette drive.

⁴ ~~37.~~ (Amended) In combination as claimed in claim ~~34~~ wherein said means for coupling is a read/write element in a fixed position on said coupler [to align] that aligns with the read/write head of the diskette drive when [inserted therein] said coupler is inserted in said diskette drive.

C³ ⁵
~~39.~~ (Amended) In combination as claimed in claim ~~37~~ including signal conditioning means which cooperates with said element to enhance a signal received by said element from the read/write head [when said coupler is inserted in said diskette drive] prior to passage of said signal to said signal transfer means.

⁶
~~39.~~ (Amended) In combination as claimed in claim ~~34~~ wherein said means for coupling with a read/write head of the diskette drive includes in combination a rotatably mounted memory storage [medium positioned to be] means rotatably driven by said diskette drive [when said coupler is inserted therein and thereby rotate said memory storage medium beneath] and in data transfer relationship with said read/write head of said diskette drive, said means for coupling further including] and a coupler read/write head [cooperating with said memory storage medium for transferring data therebetween and spaced from said read/write head of said diskette drive whereby data is transferred between said read/write heads via said memory storage medium] in data transfer relationship with said rotatably mounted memory storage means; said coupler read/write head, said read/write head of said diskette drive, and said rotatably mounted memory storage means cooperating to effect data transfer between said read/write heads via said rotatably mounted memory storage means.

WH-7552AA

Page 4

C³ 7. (Amended) In combination as claimed in claim ~~34~~ wherein said coupler includes memory means for producing an initial set of signal instructions for said computer which are transmitted to said computer when said coupler is initially aligned and positioned within said diskette drive.

8. (Amended) In combination as claimed in claim ~~34~~ [including] wherein said signal transfer means comprises a standard interface on said coupler by means of which said external peripheral device is connected to said coupler.

C⁴ 10. (Amended) A method for [allowing a read/write head of a diskette drive of a computer to act as a communication port connecting the read/write head with] forming a data transfer coupling between a computer having a diskette drive having a read/write head and an input/output port of one separate end user computer peripheral of a host of separate end user computer peripherals where each separate end user computer peripheral is traditionally [being connected] connectable to a computer by means of an input/output port of the computer[,] and [a] the standard input/output port of the particular separate computer peripheral, said method comprising:

inserting a coupler having a stationary data transfer element [in] into the diskette drive and forming a data transfer coupling between the stationary data transfer element and the read/write head of the diskette drive which coupling accommodates transmitting data between the stationary data transfer element and the read/write head, and

connecting said coupler to the standard input/output port of the separate computer peripheral and thereby [providing an electrical] forming a data transfer path [for transferring] between the read/write head and said input/output port of the one separate computer peripheral whereby data is transferred between the [data transfer element] computer and said one separate computer peripheral via the read/write head of the diskette drive.